

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph commencing on page 5, line 21, and ending at page 5, line 28, as follows:

--- [0022] The invention further provides such an apparatus in which the head rail opening defines a transverse axis and in which the head rail opening in the holding plate is tilted at an angle. The cutting die defines a cutting opening, which is similarly diagonal with the cutting die and is slidably movable relative to the holding plate so that the headrail is cut along a linear diagonal direction ~~located and oriented so as to position the axis of said head rail diagonal to the longitudinal axis of the holding plate, and in which the head rail cutting die defines a cutting opening which is similarly diagonal, the cutting die support means being slidably moveable relative to the holding plate, so that the head rail is cut along a linear axis which is diagonal to the transverse axis of the head rail.~~---

Please amend the paragraph commencing at page 9, line 21, and ending at page 9, line 26, as follows:

---[0047] It will thus be seen that by the operation of lever 40, the drive shaft 38 can be rotated. Rotation of the drive shaft 38 will procure orbital movement of the cam 42 within recess 44. The cam 42 is offset from the central axis of the drive shaft ~~36~~ 38, by a relatively small radial distance, and therefore drive cam 42 will cause sliding movement of plate 24 along a relatively short distance (compare FIGS. 3 and 4).---

Please amend the paragraph commencing on page 10, line 4, and ending at page 10, line 9, as follows:

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--- [0049] Thus as the drive ~~pin~~ cam 42 orbits around a relatively small arc relative to the central axis of drive shaft 38, the outer periphery of boss 46 will orbit around a much greater distance. This greater distance will be coupled through crank arm 48, to cutter bar 30, which will thus move simultaneously with movement of die support 24 but over a distance which is substantially greater (compare FIGS. 3 and 4 and 5 and 6).---

Please amend the paragraph that was previously added in applicant's amendment of August 29, 2003 beginning at page 10, line 29, and ending at page 11, line 12, as follows:

---Referring now to Figs. 9 and 10, a modified form of vertical blind cut down apparatus is shown having end stops for presetting the lengths of the components to be trimmed. It will be appreciated that since this machine is a multi-purpose machine, designed for trimming carious types of vertical blinds, such end stops will be required to register with the various specific components, and may have to be adjusted to different lengths of trim for different components. Accordingly, the modified machine is indicated generally as 60 and has a base plate 62, which can be secured to a bench, and component holder plate 64 fixed to base 62 at right angles. Component plate 64 is secured in a lower channel 66, which is mounted on base 62, and an upper channel 68 is secured along the upper edge of plate 64. Holder plate 64 has first head rail opening ~~20~~ 70 tilted at an angle, and a second head rail opening 72, which is oriented to lie on a vertical axis. A third head rail opening 74 is spaced from second opening 72. The three head rail openings receive head rails of various different types of vertical blinds or window coverings. These vertical blinds or window coverings customarily have various different types of head rails, each having various different dimensions. Holder plate 64 also has a blind slat or covering component recess 76. The recess 76 is of generally rectangular shape and functions to receive the blind slats or covering materials of the blind or window covering. The

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coverings may be relatively wide strips of thicker materials in some vertical blinds. In this case, the strips may be formed from a metal, plastic, or fabric. Window coverings are also known in which the covering is a continuous sheet of fabric, pleated and folded in concertina fashion at the pleats, so that the entire piece of fabric, if being trimmed, must be trimmed along each edge, over its entire length. Vertical blinds require, for example, that the head rail is trimmed to the required width dimension of the window or doorway, and that the vertical strips are trimmed, by a different amount as required by the height or the window or doorway.---